textile units does not provide a solution to the problems of sickness and the Government would not, as a rule, intervene in such cases.

Preparation of Maps pertaining to Wasteland

794. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wastelands maps have been prepared through National Remote Sensing Agency; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how these will be put to use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) With a view to identify the nature, extent and location of wastelands in the country, the National Wastelands Development Board has undertaken a maping project in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency. Under the project, maps on 1 : 50000 scale are being prepared for 146 districts in 19 States. These maps will enable the preparation and implementation of area-specific wastelands development plans.

Customs Duty Relief on Import of Machinery

795 SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering customs duty relief for machinery imported for desalination projects;

(b) whether the Gujarat Government has represented to the Central Government for such relief in case of cement and chemical industry in Saurashtra;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the request in view of acute shortage of fresh water in the region; and

(d) what will be the estimated cost and extent of imported machinery for each unit and what will be the net savings in terms of expenditure incurred to procure fresh water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Certain units located in Gujarat as also the Gujarat Government have requested for duty relief on equipments imported for desalination projects to be set up in Gujarat. The request is presently under consideration of the Government.

(d) It is estimated that a desalination Plant of capacity 5 lakhs GPD manufactured partly out of imported components would cost about Rs. 250 lakhs in case exemption from customs and excise duty is granted. The cost of the water produced by such plants is estimated at Rs. 16.76 per M3. It is not possible to work out on a realistic basis the net savings in terms of the expenditure incurred to procure fresh water.

Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme of IDBI

796. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme of Industrial Development Bank of India is due to expire on August 1, 1988; if so, whether the scheme will be reviewed and continued;

(b) what is the amount of concessional assistance and special loans provided so far under the Scheme, State-wise and what was the rate of interest and whether the recovery of the amount has been saisfactory;